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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU GRANTS CONSENT FOR TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF PYMATUNING INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE COMPANY TO PYMATUNING HOLDING COMPANY, INC.

WC Docket No. 05-160

Pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and sections 0.91, 0.291, and 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, and 63.03, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) approves the application of Pymatuning Holding Company, Inc., PITC Acquisition Sub Inc. (together "Pymatuning Holdings" or "Transferee") and The Pymatuning Independent Telephone Company ("Pymatuning Telco" or "Transferor")(collectively the "Applicants") to transfer control of Pymatuning Telco to Pymatuning Holdings.¹

On April 8, 2005, the Commission released a public notice accepting the aforementioned application for streamlined processing. On April 21, 2005, the Department of Justice, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with the concurrence of the Department of Homeland Security (collectively, the "Executive Branch Agencies") filed with the Commission a joint petition to defer grant of this application while the Executive Branch Agencies and Applicants address potential national security, law enforcement, and public safety issues.² On May 3, 2005, the Bureau removed the application from streamlined treatment pending notification from the Executive Branch Agencies that the evaluation has been completed. On May 10, 2005, the Bureau received notification that the Executive Branch Agencies now withdraw their request to defer action on the application.³ The Executive Branch Agencies state that, based on the information provided to them by the Applicants, their analysis of potential national security, law enforcement, and public safety issues, and their reliance on the commitments made by the Applicants, they no longer have any objection to the application.

The Bureau finds, upon consideration of the record, that the proposed transfer will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity, and therefore grants the requested authorization. Pursuant to section 1.103

See Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for Transfer of Control of Pymatuning Independent Telephone Company to Pymatuning Holding Company, Inc., WC Docket No. 05-160, DA 05-1046 (rel. Apr. 8, 2005).

See Letter from Laura H. Parsky, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 05-160 (filed Apr. 21, 2005).

³ See Letter from Laura H. Parsky, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 05-160 (filed May 10, 2005).

of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.103, the consent granted herein is effective upon the release of the Public Notice. Petitions for reconsideration under section 1.106 or applications for review under section 1.115 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.106, 1.115, may be filed within 30 days of the date of this Public Notice.

For further information, please contact Tracey Wilson-Parker, at (202) 418-1394, or Kimberly Jackson at (202) 418-7393, in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.